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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/715,560	11/17/2000	Colin P. Anson	30990099US	6522

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EXAMINER

COUSO, YON JUNG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/715,560

Applicant(s)

ANSON, COLIN I'.

Examiner

Yon Couso

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2004.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-11 and 20-22 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 8, 12-16, 18 and 19 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 and 17 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.4.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 12-16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martin et al.

As per claims 1 and 12, Martin teaches a computer system comprising: capturing means for capturing an electronic to produce captured image information (column 6, lines 33-37); selecting means for enabling a user to select one of plurality of options in relation to that captured image information (column 21, lines 9-42); a document database storing image information relating to a plurality of documents and for each document information relating to action which can be taken in relation to that document (column 21, line 49-column 22, line 40); and processing means for matching the captured image information with the stored image information for at least one of the documents and determining the respective action information, and for processing the determined action information and the user-selected option to produce a computer instruction as to action to be taken (column 22, line 41-column 23, line 37). Even though Martin does not teach details on capturing means for capturing an image of a paper document to produce captured image information, Martin clearly discloses capturing means for capturing an electronic to produce captured image information (column 6, lines 33-37). Moreover, Martin also discloses a scanner as an input device to the

computer system (column 5, lines 25-28). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a scanner to capturing an image of a paper document to produce captured image information, given the reference at the time the invention was made, because captured image information in Martin's teaching could have been generated by different means, such as scanner, keyboard, storage, or camera. Merely specifying an input medium by stating "capturing means for capturing an image of a paper document to produce captured image information" lacks any criticality.

As per claims 2 and 13, Martin teaches the captured image information includes information from which textual and/or graphical content of the captured document can be determined and the processing means uses that textual and/or graphical content in the matching process (column 21, lines 33-40 and column 22, lines 44-48).

As per claims 3 and 14, Martin teaches the captured image information includes information from which font and/or layout and/or color in the captured document can be determined and processing means uses that font and/or layout and/or color in the matching process (column 21, lines 12-26).

As per claims 4 and 15, Martin teaches the captured image information includes information from which a property of the paper of the captured document can be determined and the processing means uses that paper property in the matching process (column 21, lines 12-26).

As per claims 5 and 16, Martin does not teach details on storing information about a plurality of users and the processing the stored information for the particular user and to use that information in producing the computer instruction. However, Martin

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teaches electronic document managing system in the network environment, where a plurality of users would have access. It would have been obvious, if not inherent, for the user to be able to access and instruct the computer based on the information stored for the particular user, for security and privacy reasons.

As per claims 7 and 18, Martin teaches means for storing the captured image information (and if applicable the user selected option) for subsequent supply to the processing means (column 6, line 38-column 8, line 42).

As per claims 8 and 19, Martin teaches the storing means is operable to store the captured image information (and if applicable the user selected option) relating to a plurality of images, for subsequent supply to the processing means (column 6, line 38-column 8, line 42).

3. Claims 6 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

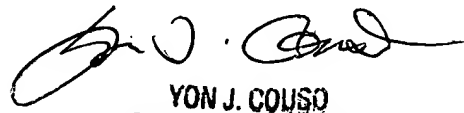
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Irons et al, Gupta et al, and Bobrow et al are also cited..

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yon Couso whose telephone number is (703) 305-4779. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am –5:00 pm from Monday to Friday

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta, can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.



YON J. COUSO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Yjc

March 9, 2004